

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SAM-01 ARA-06 EURE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DODE-00 /065 W

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P R 211708Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1973

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07970

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NI, AO, US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH BRIGADIER ADEKUNLE

AS REQUESTED BY DEPARTMENT, EMBASSY OFFICER MET WITH
BRIGADIER BENJAMIN ADEKUNLE MAY 20 AT LONDON'S PORTMAN
HOTEL. ADEKUNLE HAD NOTHING SPECIFIC TO SAY BUT WISHED
TO EXPRESS HIS GENERAL CONCERN ABOUT THE COURSE OF EVENTS
IN ANGOLA AND THE WEST'S APPARENT INACTION. HE PREDICTED
THAT IN THE LONG RUN THE WEST WILL EMERGE ON TOP IN
ANGOLA BUT LAMENTED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS FAILED TO
OFFER THE LUANDA GOVERNMENT AN ALTERNATIVE TO ITS PRESENT
RELIANCE ON THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS. ADEKUNLE URGED THAT
THE USG DISPATCH A HIGH-LEVEL EMISSARY TO LUANDA TO TALK
TO NETO, AND HE VOLUNTEERED PERSONALLY TO CLEAR THE WAY
FOR SUCH A MISSION. THE BRIGADIER DID NOT SEEM VERY WELL
INFORMED ABOUT INTERNAL TENSIONS IN THE MPLA LEADERSHIP
NOR ABOUT THE DEGREE OF EASTERN INFLUENCE IN VARIOUS
ANGOLAN MINISTRIES. HE SEEMED UNDERSTANDING IF NOT
CONVINCED WHEN EMBASSY OFFICER EXPLAINED US CONCERNS
ABOUT THE COMPOSITION AND DIRECTION OF THE LUANDA GOVERN-
MENT. ADEKUNLE DOES NOT PLAN TO VISIT THE US; THE MEETING
WAS AMICABLE THROUGHOUT.

ARMSTRONG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LONDON07970
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760197-0816
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760529/aaaaayhx.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING WITH BRIGADIER ADEKUNLE AS REQUESTED BY DEPARTMENT, EMBASSY OFFICER MET WITH
TAGS: PFOR, NI, AO, US, MPLA, (ADEKUNLE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006